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ARAB STATES - ISRAEL: Several violations of the cease-fire on both the northern and the southern sectors of the Egyptian front yesterday and reports of heavy Egyptian troop movements may be harbingers of a higher level of military activity.

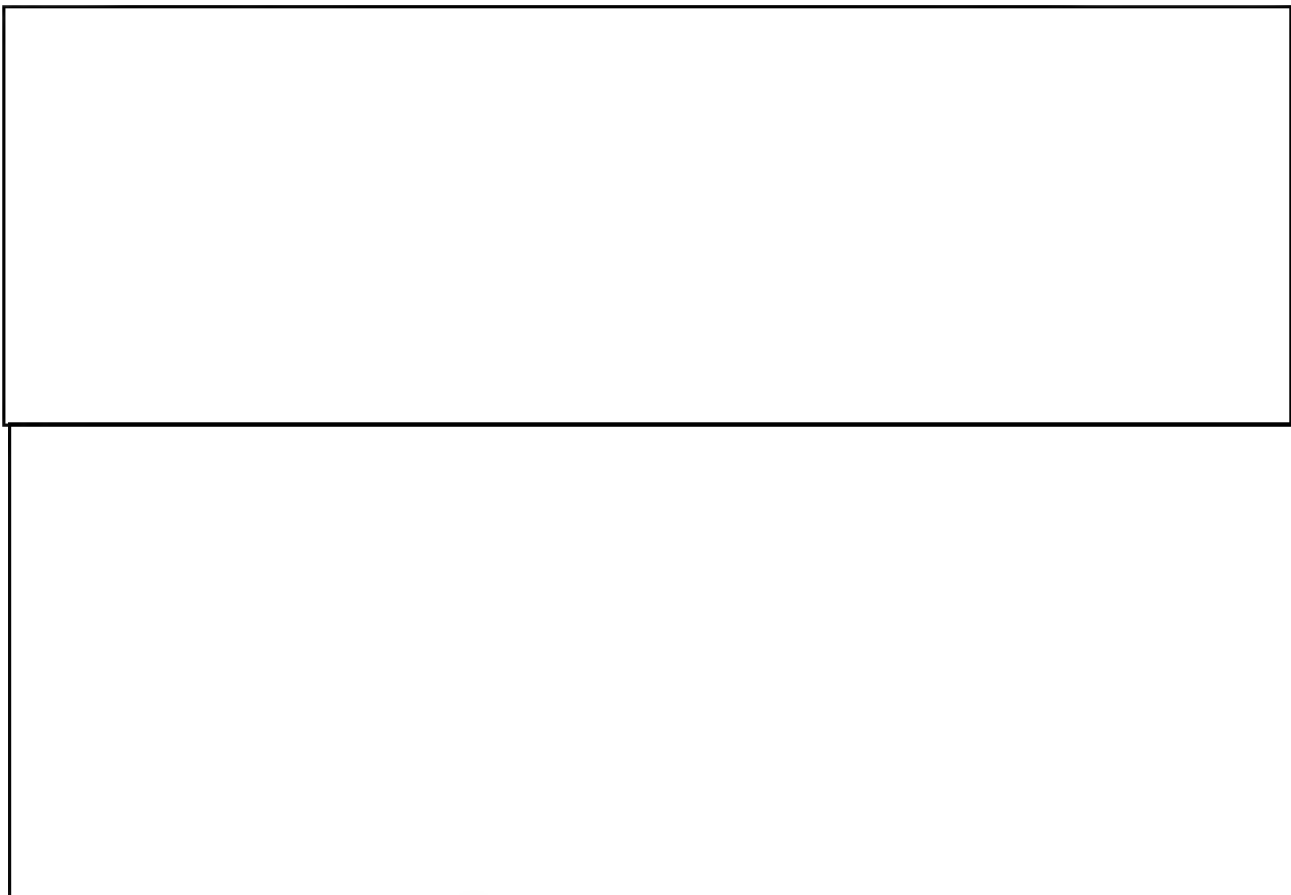
The Syrian front remained calm yesterday, but in the Sinai Israeli military spokesmen claim that Egyptian forces violated the cease-fire four times. One small clash occurred between a Third Army patrol and Israeli forces in the southern sector, and the Egyptians conducted three attacks in the Second Army area in the northern Sinai--the first there since the cease-fire. The fighting in the northern sector included Egyptian tank and infantry attacks which lasted for six hours before the Egyptians were reportedly stopped. Israeli spokesmen have stated that the Egyptians made some initial gains and still hold some of the ground taken during the fighting.

The Israelis claim that the attacks were not particularly large or militarily significant. Nonetheless, press reports from Tel Aviv have cited concern in Israeli military circles about the possibility of renewed Egyptian attacks in the northern sector. Defense Minister Dayan said yesterday that Egypt can definitely be expected to renew fighting along the Suez front which could involve Egypt's Second Army. Last night another spokesman indicated his belief that the Egyptians are in position for military action; "we are ready for it," he said.

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Libyan President Qadhafi and Algerian President Boumediene are in the midst of separate whirlwind tours of Middle East capitals, and other Arab leaders appear on the verge of similar trips. Since the first of the month, Qadhafi and Boumediene have visited Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Syria; Boumediene also visited Kuwait. Tunisian Foreign Minister Masmoudi completed a week's visit to the Egyptian capital yesterday. The meetings have undoubtedly included an exchange of views on future strategy in view of Secretary Kissinger's visit, and Qadhafi and Boumediene have probably attempted to press a hard line on their more moderate colleagues. Lobbying for an Arab summit conference, possibly to be held in Cairo or Algiers within a week, may also have been on the agenda.

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GREECE: Raucous anti-government demonstrations in Athens on Sunday may set back Prime Minister Markezinis' efforts to promote "impeccable" elections by encouraging wide participation, even by the left. The demonstrations may also fuel the resentment of military officers who fear and oppose a civilian government.

During a memorial service honoring former prime minister George Papandreou, which was attended by some 5,000 people, a well-organized group of 400-500 young people shouted anti-government slogans, called for a boycott of the elections, and urged the return from exile of Andreas Papandreou, the former prime minister's son and an important leader of the Greek left. According to the US Embassy, several hundred demonstrators clashed with police--the first significant violence since martial law was lifted in August. Reports of the encounter vary, but at least 30 policemen and a few civilians were injured.

Markezinis' efforts--backed by President Papadopoulos--to induce the traditional political forces to participate in the elections have not been very successful so far. His invitation to the left has been rejected by such leaders as Andreas Papandreou and Ilias Iliou, who formerly headed a Communist-front party.

Younger politicians, however, including some Communists, have been showing interest in participating in the elections. Greece's dissident Communist Party, composed of elements that split from the Moscow-backed party, has approached such non-Communist political leaders as former National Radical Union leader Kanellopoulos and associates of ex-prime minister Karamanlis to offer cooperation in the elections. The dissident Communists have publicly called for a popular front of all elements opposed to the government; they have implied, however, that they would not participate in the elections if the non-Communist parties boycott them.

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Leftists who back Andreas Papandreou might, in his continued absence, find a convenient political roof in some kind of legal party. Papandreou and his anti-regime Panhellenic Liberation Movement, however, have been calling for a boycott of the elections. Speaking recently to Greek workers in Frankfurt, Papandreou described Greece as an "American-occupied" country that could be freed only by extra-parliamentary means.

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES: The EC Council will consider at its current meeting in Brussels the issue of compensatory tariff concessions to non-EC countries who suffered export damage from Community enlargement. Council willingness to consider the issue is, in part, a result of recent US diplomatic pressure. The major obstacle to approval remains France's insistence that the offer be "final." Other member countries prefer that the matter be subject to bargaining. The tariff concessions are likely to be ratified quickly if a compromise on this point is reached, but the offer will fall short of US requests.

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FOR THE RECORD*

South Vietnam: Bien Hoa airbase in South Vietnam was struck on 6 November by 22 122-mm. rockets and 18 82-mm. mortar rounds, destroying three stored F-5 aircraft and a gasoline storage area. A fourth F-5 and two runways were damaged; one runway remains closed. Twelve South Vietnamese Air Force enlisted men were wounded in the action. Several rockets also hit the Military Region 3 headquarters and a ranger field command post; casualties and damage were light. These are the heaviest shellings close to Saigon since the cease-fire. [REDACTED]

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Cuba: [REDACTED]
no significant change since 25 October in the status of the artillery positions being constructed near the Guantanamo Naval Base. No new artillery positions or drive-through bunkers have been added and no artillery equipment or unusual military activity was noted in the general area. [REDACTED]

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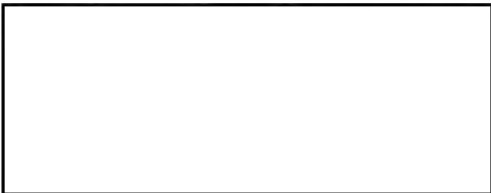
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